

Americans are not being served by the consolidation of the media. A perfect example of corporate abuse and not serving the public interest is the Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election. This clearly exemplifies the dangers of media consolidation. The same would be true if Sinclair had decided to force its stations to air the movie Fahrenheit 9/11.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, Americans get more of what's good for the corporate bottom line and less of what is needed for our democracy to flourish. It is important that we see real people from our own communities and substantive news about issues that truly matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to have real teeth and not be a rubber stamp. Thank you.